Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, A woman receives a diagnosis of breast cancer every two minutes, making this disease the most frequently diagnosed cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancers; and,

Whereas, It is estimated that by the end of 2011, approximately 590 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to occur among women in the state of South Dakota and about 100 will die from the disease; and,

Whereas, Through research and advocacy, significant advances have been made in the fight against breast cancer, including an increase in five-year relative survival rates for localized breast cancer from 74 percent to 98 percent; and,

Whereas, The 2.5 million breast cancer survivors living in the United States today are a testament to courage, as well as to the importance of promoting awareness about breast cancer, providing information, funding research, following recommended screening guidelines, and offering treatment to those who are affected; and,

Whereas, The efforts of various organizations have made a major contribution to spreading breast cancer awareness to both women and men in all communities in this state through outreach, education, and screening programs, and have empowered women with the life-saving message of early detection and the importance of having annual mammograms; and,

Whereas, Screening rates are declining and a recent study reveals that among the 1.5 million women studied over the age of 40 with health insurance, less than 50 percent received the recommended annual screening; and,

Whereas, Throughout the month of October, women are encouraged to make a renewed commitment to following recommended screening guidelines and to encourage an annual mammogram, and organizations and health practitioners in this state are encouraged to use this opportunity to promote awareness about breast cancer and proper breast health; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota recognizes the importance of working together and supporting events such as Breast Cancer Awareness Month:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 2011, as

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixteenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State